REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The Applicant would like to thank the examiner for the careful consideration given to the present application. The application has been reviewed in light of the Office action, and it is respectfully submitted that the application as amended, is patentable over the prior art. Reconsideration of the application as amended in light of the following remarks is respectfully requested. Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that the rejections of claims in view of the cited references be withdrawn.

The informalities as to reference numbers in paragraphs 0027 and 0031 of the specification have been corrected to overcome the objection.

The Examiner had also objected to the drawings as failing to comply with 37 CFR 1.84(p)(4) because reference "22a" has been used to designate both the adhesive sheet (Fig. 3) and the suction plane (Fig. 4b, 6b). The Examiner's objection as to the drawings is respectfully traversed. Reference character "22a" denotes the suction plane throughout the drawings. The adhesive sheet is indicated by reference character "5". The distinction between the two elements is clear in Fig. 5B and 6B where they both appear. The use of these reference characters is also consistent in Fig. 3, 4B, and 6A.

Claim 4 had been objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim and has been rewritten in independent form to include all of the limitations of the base claim.

Claims 3, 5 and 6 stand rejected as being anticipated by U.S. Patent 7,060,593 (Kurosawa et al.) and Japanese Patent Publication 10-163133 (Seiichi). Based on the Examiner's indication as to allowable subject matter in regard to claim 4, claims 3, 5 and 6 have been amended to incorporate the limitations of the allowable subject matter and, as a result, the Examiner's rejection has been rendered moot.

In light of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is in condition for allowance and notice to that effect is hereby requested. If it is determined that the application is not in condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to initiate a telephone interview with the undersigned attorney to expedite prosecution of the present application.

If there are any additional fees resulting from this communication, please charge same to our Deposit Account No. 16-0820, our Order No. 36635.

Appl. No. 10/820,293 Amdt. Dated November 27, 2006 Reply to Office action of Sept. 20, 2006

Respectfully submitted, PEARNE & GORDON LLP

Bv:

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Date: November 27, 2006